

**COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR**

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION,
LIFELONG LEARNING, AND COMPETITIVENESS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS, INSURANCE,
AND GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED ENTERPRISES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA, THE PACIFIC,
AND THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT



House of Representatives
Rubén Hinojosa
15th District, Texas

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2463 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-2531
FAX: (202) 225-5688

EDINBURG OFFICE:

2864 WEST TRENTON ROAD
EDINBURG, TX 78539
PHONE: (956) 682-5545
FAX: (956) 682-0141

BEEVILLE OFFICE:

107 SOUTH SAINT MARY'S
BEEVILLE, TX 78102
PHONE: (361) 358-8400
FAX: (361) 358-8407

Rep.Hinojosa@mail.house.gov
www.house.gov/hinojosa

July 12, 2007

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
236 Massachusetts Avenue NE
Suite 110
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Commissioner

As the U.S. Congressman for the 15th District of Texas, I would like to convey to you my support for and concurrence with the proposal submitted by Texas Health Information Collaboration entitled, "Texas Health Information Network Collaborative," to the Federal Communications Commission.

If funded, this proposal would prove instrumental in providing high speed broadband access to rural health care providers throughout District 15, and the State of Texas. Areas limited by their rural nature will have the ability to utilize telehealth services such as telemedicine, remote consult and triage, electronic medical records, continuing education, and several other innovative telecom-based healthcare services.

This initial connectivity will provide improved services to rural place based patients, and could become a educational lifeline for health information, professional training and consumer education. Moreover, there is a shortage of healthcare providers in the rural area and this network may provide a method for educational opportunities in allied health that will make this statewide telehealth network optimal.

In terms of healthcare accessibility, modern progress is realized by individuals who are motivated by expansion and equal-access of services via modern technological innovation. I have always believed that our government is an essential partner in helping our communities. However, government alone cannot create complete solutions. The right solutions are those that combine community leaders, industry, government and citizens. I commend the partners on this project for their commitment to meet the needs of our growing region. As the Chair for the Subcommittee on Higher Education, I strongly support this commitment to improving the quality of life for my constituents, and I urge your favorable consideration of this application.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this proposal. I would greatly appreciate continuing status on this application. If you have any questions, regarding this application, you may contact me, or my Beeville District Office, at (361) 358-8400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rubén Hinojosa".

Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress

RH/cg